

social hygiene news



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Oregon Reactivates

The Oregon Social Hygiene Society, inactive since World War I, has been reorganized at the request of Mayor Fred L. Peterson of Portland, Ore.

Mayor Peterson and other civic officials said they spearheaded the society's reactivation to make ASHA's services in family life education available to the city and the state.

Newly-elected president of the Oregon group is Dr. Adolph Weinzirl, professor of public health and preventive medicine at the University of Oregon medical school.

Curtis Avery was named vice-president and Dr. Thomas L. Meador, city health officer, is secretary-treasurer.

AFL-CIO Supports Social Hygiene Program

The AFL-CIO Community Services Committee of Dayton and Montgomery County, Ohio, has recommended strong promotion of a social hygiene program.

The following recommendations were adopted by the joint labor committee, which met with Dr. Jerome Bresher, president, and Mrs. Russell Arnold, executive director of the county's Social Hygiene Association:

(1) Routine voluntary blood testing of employees on a periodical basis.

(2) Educational program for stewards.

(3) Educational discussions for family groups on sex education and venereal disease control.

(4) Feature articles in labor papers and distribution of social hygiene literature and the showing of educational films.

(5) VD blood tests for newly hired workers.

Recommended for further study was a proposed ordinance for compulsory blood testing of all workers.

General Maglin to Receive Snow Award

Major General William H. Maglin, Provost Marshal General, United States Army, will be awarded the American Social Hygiene Association's William Freeman Snow Award at a luncheon held in his honor at the Plaza Hotel in New York City on October 10.

The Snow Award, given for distinguished service to humanity, is the highest honor ASHA can bestow.

What Boy Teenager With VD Is Like

Here are some characteristics of the average teenage male with VD, as reported in a recent study done in Los Angeles.

He comes from a large family in which there is little supervision.

He leaves school after the 10th grade to work and buy a car.

He quits his work after a short time and is sporadically employed from then on.

He develops a pattern of promiscuity.

He shows misinformation about venereal disease when first seen as a patient, a typical example being that prostitutes alone are responsible for VD.

He does not seek immediate aid when signs and symptoms develop.

The study was conducted by the Contact Interviewing School of the Los Angeles City Health Department and the California State Health Department.

NEW POST FOR ANDERSON

Dr. Robert J. Anderson, a career officer in the Public Health Service, has been named chief of the Service's Communicable Disease Center in Atlanta, Ga.

Formerly assistant chief of the Division of Special Health Services in Washington, Dr. Anderson has for the past two years directed operational research in venereal disease, tuberculosis, chronic diseases, occupational health and heart disease control activities.



Major General William H. Maglin

A graduate of West Point, General Maglin served as Provost Marshall of the Allied Forces in North Africa during World War II.

In 1943 he was Commandant of the Provost Marshal General School and in 1945 assumed the post of Chief of the Military Police Division of the Office of the Provost Marshal.

While in Korea General Maglin organized the Korean National Police and was awarded the Military Order of Taekuk by Syngman Rhee in 1953 in appreciation of his services.

Principal speaker on the luncheon program will be Lieut.-General Thomas W. Herren, commanding officer, First Army.

Other speakers will be Congressman Alfred D. Sieminski of New Jersey and Philip R. Mather, ASHA president, who will make the presentation of the Snow medal to General Maglin.

Arnstein Is Honored In San Francisco



Lawrence Arnstein (right), executive director of the San Francisco Social Hygiene Association, is shown above as he is awarded a certificate making him an honorary life member in the American Social Hygiene Association at a luncheon held in his honor last month. ASHA president Philip M. Mather is presenting the award while Malcolm S. M. Watts, president of the San Francisco Health Council, looks on. Honored for more than forty years of public health service, as a member of the San Francisco Board of Health and a leader in the California Social Hygiene movement, Mr. Arnstein championed legislation for state support of child care centers, established psychiatric clinics for VD patients and helped found the School of Public Health at the University of California. A pioneer in family life education, he assisted in the formation of the Family Life Education Service of the Adult Division of San Francisco Public Schools.

Forum Head Appointed

Dr. Francis J. Braceland, president of the American Psychiatric Association, has been appointed chairman of the 1957 National Health Forum Committee.

The Forum, sponsored by the National Health Council, will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 20 and 21.

Missouri Unit Meets: Elects New Officers

Dr. M. Norman Orgel was re-elected president of the Missouri Social Hygiene Association at the unit's recent annual meeting.

Other officers re-elected were Miss Helen Manley, Dr. Jules H. Kopp, Rev. Trafford P. Paher, and Dr. B. Y. Glassbert, vice-presidents; Dr. P. A. Katzman, secretary-treasurer; Dr. Richard S. Weiss and Dr. Paul J. Zentay, honorary presidents.

New members of the board of directors are Mrs. E. W. Broemmelsiek, Dr. Loretta Cass, James W. Connor, Rev. J. Albert Dalton, Dr. G. Curtis Jones and Mrs. Paul Whitney.

Family Life Lines

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The first workshop in family life education for teachers of the District of Columbia School System will be held from October 4 through November 8. Workshop chairman is **Dr. Estelle S. Phillips**, director of curriculum for Washington, D. C., schools. **Dr. Ed Pope**, of the U. S. Department of Agriculture Extension Service, will serve as consultant.

Workshop leaders will include **Dr. Madelaine W. Kirkland**, supervising director of home economics, Western High School, Washington, D. C.; **Birch Bayh**, director of health, physical education athletics and safety, Washington, D. C., Public Schools, and **Dr. Vance L. Shiflett**, assistant professor of social science, Washington, D. C., Teachers College.

VIRGINIA

Publication of a new family life education guide, titled "You and Family Living," has been announced by **E. W. Rushton**, superintendent of schools, Roanoke, Va.

The guide was produced for the use of Roanoke City Schools during a recent ASHA-sponsored workshop on personal and family life education.

The Central Atlantic In-service Project has issued a leaflet describing its goals and services.

Copies are available from the project coordinator, **Dr. Harold K. Jack**, supervisor, health, physical education and recreation, State Department of Education, Roanoke, Va., or Division of Education, ASHA, 1790 Broadway.

CALIFORNIA

The Health Education and Venereal Disease Council of Hollywood participated last month in a TV show called "Learning, '56," sponsored by the Audio-Visual Education Division of the County Superintendent of Schools Office. Topic was "Teenage Marriage" and panel was composed of **Dr. John Beeston**, the council's board president, **Richard Stock**, executive director, Family Service of Los Angeles, and two teenagers.

Health Association To Meet

The 84th annual meeting of the American Public Health Association will be held in Atlantic City, N. J., November 12-16.

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1790 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.
Philip R. Mather - - - President
Conrad Van Hyning - Executive Director
Andrea Smargon - - - Editor

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Kansas Institute Discusses Marriage

Marriage and family stability was the theme for a three-day institute sponsored this month by the Kansas City Social Hygiene Association.

Directed by Paul Popenoe of the American Institute of Family Relations, the institute was carried on with the cooperation of eight community agencies and institutions, including the University of Kansas City, the Junior League and the Kansas City Junior College.

Preparing children for marriage, modern marriage patterns, and factors in family stability, were some of the topics discussed during institute sessions.

President of the Kansas City Social Hygiene Society is Rev. Charles A. McEowen.

Teenage VD Grows; Nashville Asks Education

Venereal disease among boys and girls in Nashville, Tenn., is increasing and lack of "proper sex education" is cited as one of the causes.

This report by the *Nashville Banner* is based on interviews with local health department and juvenile court officials.

City and county Health Department officers said they "definitely" noticed more teenagers among infected patients being treated.

A juvenile court official said that he found one girl only 11 years old with syphilis.

All women hailed into court in Nashville are being routinely checked for venereal disease.

English VD Patients Have "Grave" Problems

A study of two hundred patients with congenital syphilis in England shows that a high proportion had "grave" social problems specifically related to their disease.

This is reported in a study entitled, "The Background of Congenital Syphilis, a Search for Medico-Social Pattern in 200 Families," done by the Department of Venereology, Newcastle General Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England.

In the researchers' investigation of social conditions surrounding the birth and life patterns of the patients, a high incidence of illegitimacy and unhappiness in childhood was found.

Delinquency Serious, Police Report

The young population in this country accounts for a number of serious crimes greatly in excess of its proportion to the total population.

This statement is made in a preliminary report entitled "The Role of Police in Juvenile Delinquency," based upon a study by the Committee on Juvenile Delinquency of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the New York City Police Department.

The study discloses that over 42 per cent of the most serious felonies, murder, manslaughter, aggravated assault, rape, robbery, burglary and auto theft were committed by persons under 18.

Almost half of the young persons committing the crimes were under 15 years of age.

The study says that police officials across the nation are agreed that the problem of crime and delinquency among minors is not one for the police alone.

"Neither the police or other law enforcement agencies have ever been able to build character or develop all the desirable habits, attitudes and ideals necessary for worthwhile life in the community," the study points out.

It urges that the home, church or synagogue, school and other community agencies must assume their fair share of this "enormous" responsibility.

What the police can do about juvenile delinquency was summarized in some recommendations for action by police departments across the country.

These recommendations include careful study of the effectiveness of curfews in reducing crime, stricter enforcement of laws covering closing hours of liquor establishments, the study of adequacy of current laws banning obscene and horror literature, and special juvenile units and police juvenile personnel maintained by each police force.

An overwhelming majority of police departments felt that official non-police agencies should be created or strengthened to provide adjustment and casework with the delinquent child, his family and school.

Equal enthusiasm was found for the maintenance of active cooperative programs with neighborhood youth councils of civilians in order to reduce delinquency.



Dr. Edgar C. Cumings has joined the staff of the American Social Hygiene Association as Educational Consultant, it is announced by Dr. Ellis White, ASHA's Education Director.

Dr. Cumings is a graduate of Indiana University with a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

He has served as dean and vice-president of Hiram College in Ohio, acting president of Coe College in Iowa, dean of the University at DePauw University, and has held executive posts at Indiana University, the University of Rochester and Canterbury College.



COMMUNITY CAMPAIGNS

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Orel Myers Honored By ASHA in Ohio

Orel J. Myers, distinguished attorney and honorary vice-president of the American Social Hygiene Association, was made an honorary life member of ASHA at a luncheon held in Dayton, Ohio, last month.

The honor was conferred on Mr. Myers by Philip Mather, president of the American Social Hygiene Association in recognition of his "invaluable" service to the cause of social hygiene.

Mr. Myers helped to develop the Social Hygiene Association of Dayton and Montgomery County early in World War II.

"He was a man of vision," Mr. Mather said, "and he saw the organization's goal as not only control of VD and organized vice, but also as a means of breaking the generation to generation chain of personal and family problems through educational programs."

When the post World War II limited national emergency was declared, Mr. Myers was one of a committee working with General Omar Bradley to organize support for the United Defense Fund.

Over the years Mr. Myers has been an ASHA board member, a member of the executive committee and chairman of the finance committee.

He is a member of the American Bar Association, the American Judicature Society and the Dayton and Ohio Bar Associations.



Orel J. Myers

Lab Courses Offered

Nine laboratory refresher courses covering the serology of syphilis, management of syphilis serology by the regional laboratory, and tests for syphilis, are being offered by the Public Health Service's VD program.

The courses are held at the Venereal Disease Research Laboratory in Chamblee, Ga., through May, 1957.

Further information can be obtained from the Director, Venereal Disease Research Laboratory, P. O. Box 185, Chamblee, Ga.

Babies Saved From VD When Mothers Treated

There is little chance that a baby will be born with congenital syphilis if his syphilitic mother previously had one adequate course of treatment for the disease.

Dr. Nels A. Nelson and Virginia A. Struve, R.N., reported on 1,220 children of 423 syphilitic mothers in the *June Journal of the American Medical Association*.

No cases of congenital syphilis were found among 654 infants born of infected mothers who had been treated before delivery and had no relapses or reinfections.

Among 199 children of syphilitic mothers who had not been treated the infection rate reached 13.4 per cent, while among 142 children of diseased mothers who had less than one course of treatment the rate was 5.8 per cent.

Even if a full course of treatment was given only one month prior to delivery it was effective in preventing infection in the infant, the authors found.

Dr. Nelson and Miss Struve said that if a child showed no signs of syphilis by the age of three months he was considered to be free of the disease. They never found a case in an older child who had not shown signs at the age of three months.

Dr. Nelson is director of the bureau of venereal disease of the Baltimore City Health Department where Miss Struve is supervisor of public health nursing.